

## II. REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 31, 2007, has been received and carefully noted.

The amendments made herein and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Support for the amendment can be found in the specification and the claims as originally filed. For example, support for claim 1 can be found on page 11, lines 1-7. As such, Applicants submit that no new matter has been added, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Deibert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,442,715) in view of Joshi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,454,922). Applicants traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 of the presently claimed invention is directed to a "paste composition for making electrodes of fuel cells, comprising 1 to 20 weight % of a carbon black supporting a hydrogen reduction catalyst, 1 to 30 weight % of an electrolyte, 1 to 50 weight % of an organic solvent with a boiling point of 100 to 200°C, and 30 to 80 weight % of a water-soluble organic solvent with a boiling point of less than 100°C" (emphasis added). Claims 2-5 depend from independent claim 1.

Applicants note that the composition of the presently claimed invention has excellent storage stability and can allow for a sufficient pore volume in the resultant electrode (see page 2, lines 13-16; page 11, line 13 to page 12, line 6; and page 26 of the specification).

Applicants submit that Deibert et al. does not teach or suggest the presently claimed invention. Applicants submit that Deibert fails to teach or suggest a paste composition for making electrodes which comprises each component in the amount specifically claimed in independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2 to 5. For example, Applicants submit that Deibert et al. does not teach or suggest a composition comprising: 1 to 20 weight % of a carbon black supporting a hydrogen reduction catalyst, 1 to 30 weight % of an electrolyte, 1 to 50 weight % of an organic solvent with a boiling point of 100 to 200°C, and 30 to 80 weight % of a water-soluble organic solvent with a boiling point of less than 100°C. Further, Applicants submit that Deibert et al. does not teach or suggest using both “an organic solvent with a boiling point of 100 to 200°C” and “a water-soluble organic solvent with a boiling point of less than 100°C” in combination, let alone using those components in the amounts claimed.

Further, Applicants submit that Joshi et al. fails to satisfy the deficiencies of Deibert et al. Applicants submit that Joshi et al. merely generally discloses “a fluid-dispensing, electrochemical pump... [which] utilizes an electrochemical cell having a thin-walled, substantially non-porous polymeric ionomer, such as polyperfluoro-sulfonated ethylene, which has one ionic/electronic conducting electrode capable of reducing oxygen in the presence of watts or protons and another electronic/ionic conducting electrode suitable for oxygen evolution” (Joshi et al., col. 3, lines 3-9).

Applicants submit that Joshi et al., like Deibert et al., fails to teach or suggest a paste composition having components in the amounts specifically claimed.

As such, Applicants submit that Deibert et al. and Joshi et al. fail to teach or suggest all of the elements of the presently claimed invention, as set forth in independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-5. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Deibert et al. in view of Joshi et al.

### **III. CONCLUSION**

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event this response is not timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. **026035-00009**.

Respectfully submitted,

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